



California Department of Veterans Affairs

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

YOUNTVILLE VETERANS HOME MOURNS LOSS OF LAST WORLD WAR I VETERAN

YOUNTVILLE – October 7, 2004 – The Veterans Home of California in Yountville sadly announces the death of the Home's last surviving World War I veteran, Mr. Perry Fusselman, who passed away, Wednesday, October 6, 2004 at the age of 106.

Upon hearing of Fusselman's death, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Tom Johnson stated, "Perry was truly a joy to be around and I feel blessed to have met him. As one of the last survivors of World War I, Perry brought happiness to those around him. He will be missed by all of us at the California Department of Veterans Affairs."

Fusselman made his home at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville during the last 8 years of his life. Fusselman always enjoyed card playing and listening to music, and until a year ago, was an energetic dancer. At the age of 102, Fusselman participated in the member-run computer school and learned to use the computer with which he enjoyed email correspondence with his family. Until the age of 91 Fusselman was an avid traveler, having toured much of Europe, Egypt, India, Japan and Mexico.

Fusselman will be remembered at the monthly remembrance service held the second Thursday of each month at the Veterans Home of California, Yountville.

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Note to editors: This news release and previous CDVA news releases are available on our website at www.cdva.ca.gov and via e-mail from jaimeteaga@cdva.ca.gov